

**Final Minutes
Sanctuary Advisory Council
March 25, 1999
Channel Islands Yacht Club
Channel Islands, CA**

- **CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, REVIEW OF COUNCIL LETTERHEAD, MANAGERS REPORT**

A) Call to Order, Roll Call

The Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council met on Friday, March 25, 1999 at the Channel Islands Yacht Club in Channel Islands, CA. The meeting was called to order by the Chair, the Secretary conducted the roll call - a quorum was present. The following members were present

Business: Rudy Scott
Citizen-At-Large: Marla Daily
Citizen-At-Large: Craig Fusaro, Ph.D.
Conservation: Linda Krop
Education: Dave Long
Fishing: Bruce Steele
Recreation: Jim Brye
Research: Leal Mertes, Ph.D.
Tourism: Holly Lohuis

Channel Islands National Park: Tim Setnicka
County of Santa Barbara: Dianne Meester
County of Ventura: Lyn Krieger
Department of Fish and Game: Patricia Wolf
United States Navy: Ron Dow
NMFS: Mark Helvey
MMS: Drew Mayerson
Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary: LCDR Edward Cassano

The following alternates were present:
Calif. Resources Agency: Melissa Miller-Henson
Dept. of Fish and Game: Jorge Gross
Citizen-At-Large: Mick Kronman
Recreation: Tony Gibbs
Tourism: Michael Finucan
County of Ventura: Jack Peveler
Minerals Management Service: Fred Piltz
US Coast Guard: Mike Hamerski MST 1
US Navy: Gail Pringle
County of Santa Barbara: Jackie Campbell

B) Approval of Meeting Minutes (Final 12/11/98, Draft 2/25/99)

1. The 12/11/98 minutes were not approved; the following points were raised:
 - Corrections are needed to the self-introduction section of the December minutes.
 - A separate biographies document will be generated that will be more in depth than the self-introductions.
 - Marla Daily made a motion that was seconded, to have the meeting minutes tape-recorded. The motion passed and future meetings will be tape-recorded. Sanctuary staff will continue to take meeting notes in a summary fashion, not verbatim.
 - The Council and the public will have access to the recorded minutes, which can be ordered, from the Sanctuary office. The minutes once finalized will be posted on the CINMS web page as well.
2. The 2/25/99 Draft minutes were not approved:
 - Corrections on 2/25 meeting minutes should be sent to the Sanctuary office by 4/5/99.

C) Review of Council Letterhead

The letterhead was not approved, because:

- concern over space for text
 - different options for images
- size of type used for council member names
 - Question on the use of the NOAA logo

D) Managers Report

Reserve issue and Management Plan update- The CINMS has been working with the Fish and Game Commission and the Department of Fish and Game. Development of the reserve process will be incorporated into the CINMS management plan review process. Anne Walton will be the liaison between the SAC and the management plan review process and she will also attend SAC meetings.

Education – Sustainable Seas Expeditions (SSE) and the Marine Educators Regional Alliance (MERA)

A big focus for CINMS education and outreach effort is the development and planning for the SSE mission and MERA program. SSE will be in the Sanctuary May 24- June 5, 1999. A media day is scheduled for May 27, 1999. Ed and Sarah have been in Sustainable Seas sub training in Seattle working on their navigation and sonar skills in the sub-marines.

MERA meetings are scheduled to take place once a month, contact Julie Goodson, CINMS education staff for details (805) 966-7107 x 462.

Research – The R/V Ballena completed 2 weeks of sidescan sonar work in the Sanctuary, looking at San Miguel Island (SMI) and Anacapa Island (ANI). The work included mapping the benthos at SMI out to 180 meters, the south side of ANI and portions of the squid harvesting area around Santa Cruz Island. California Sea Grant the National Park and the US Geological Survey are cooperating on this project. Part of this work will tie in well with the ongoing Department of Fish and Game squid research in the Sanctuary.

The R/V Ballena is off of Ventura today mapping the Santa Clara River plume, taking oceanographic readings and determining the sediment load from the plume. This is part of a 3-year study with UC Santa Barbara that includes oceanographic sampling around the Islands.

Fourth Channel Islands Symposium sponsored by the Minerals Management Service, will take place Monday – Thursday, March 29-April 1, 1999. The CINMS and National Park, among many other agencies and organizations have submitted papers for presentation at the symposium. Notably, Ben Waltenberger, CINMS GIS specialist and Sean Hastings, CINMS policy specialist contributed papers.

Administrative – The CINMS is preparing the FY 2000 budget. Under President Clinton \$1 billion land initiative there is a possibility to double the Marine Sanctuaries Division annual budget from \$14.5 million to \$29 million. If budget increases do occur the CINMS is hoping to open a southern office to reach out to our southern communities, conduct more baseline research and hire permanent staff.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Frank Holmes – Western States Petroleum Association (WSPA) is the oil and gas trade association for the six western states, representing all offshore operations. WSPA is very interested in a seat on the SAC and feels that it would be prudent to have the oil industry represented on the SAC.

The SAC advised Mr. Holmes that the issue of SAC membership is on the agenda. Ed explained that in determining the make-up of the SAC he had considered a separate seat for oil but decided that if the oil industry was interested they could apply under the business seat, which they did not.

Keith Moore – Channel Islands Marine Resource Restoration Committee (CIMRRC) CIMRRC has presented to the Santa Barbara and Ventura communities on the state of the marine resources around the Islands. CIMRRC wishes to present to the SAC a ten year historical video and presentation at a future SAC meeting.

III. ESTABLISHING STANDARD WORKING GROUPS AND ISSUE-ORIENTATED WORKING GROUPS

Standard Working Group

- Working groups engage the broader public, like WSPA, in long-term groups
- SAC seats are meant to represent their constituents, like the tip of a pyramid, working groups are to help SAC members network with their constituents
- Working groups focus interests, e.g. research, to provide advice to the member. Working groups meet on a different schedule than the regular SAC meetings
- CINMS will provide support to facilitate these groups
- CINMS will provide the SAC with working group background information. The general working group structure is spelled in the Charter and based on the Sanctuaries Act
- Working groups flow from the Sanctuary model i.e. certain Sanctuary program areas may need a standing working group, such as education, research and conservation

A) Education Working Group -

There was discussion on the Marine Educators Regional Alliance (MERA) possibly serving as an education working group.

Dianne Meester motioned, seconded by **Bruce Steele**, that MERA be established as an informal working group, through Dave Long the education representative, on a six month trial basis, adding that if this relationship didn't work, the SAC could establish a formal education working group later. The motion was approved.

The next MERA meeting is April 8, 1999, from 9:00 – 12:00 at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History.

B) Research Working Group-

The SAC will discuss this at another time when a research representative is present.

C) Conservation Working Group-

There was a debate on who would serve on a conservation working group, how one defines a conservationist, the potential for excluding interested members, and avoiding the creation of a miniature version of the SAC. Also, there was confusion on the difference between a standard working group and an issue based working group. The issue was tabled by the Chair, and will be resumed during the May 20, 1999 meeting.

Issue oriented working groups - to be discussed later in the agenda.

IV. REPRESENTATION ON THE COUNCIL: NUMBER AND TYPE OF SEATS, VOTING / NON-VOTING ISSUES, AND CHARTER REVISIONS

A) Number and Type of Seats-

Comments centered on the following points:

- The SAC should try working within the current structure
- The SAC needs to expand its representation, for example WSPA's interest

Working groups can lend themselves to expanding involvement with the SAC, for example, oil and gas and ports and harbors interests would fit well on a working group.

Linda Krop motioned, seconded by Rudy Scott, that the SAC retain the existing structure with the option of working groups, both the issue-orientated and standing, to enhance the participation on the SAC, and to continue to evaluate representation on the SAC in the future.

Roll call vote

Tourism: Lohuis - yes	At-large: Daily- no	Navy: Dow- yes
Recreation: Brye- yes	Business: Scott- yes	DF&G: Wolf- yes
Fishing: Steele - no	NMFS: Helvey- no	SB Co: Meester- yes
Education: Long - no	Park: Setnicka –no vote	Ventura Co:Peveler- yes
Conservation: Krop -yes	MMS: Mayerson- no	CRA:Miller-Henson- yes
At-Large: Fusaro - no	USCG:Hammerski- no	

The motion passed with 9 yes and 7 no votes, the Park did not vote.

B) Voting - Non-Voting Issue

This issue was brought before the council because the National Park has decided not to vote on Council issues. However, in the SAC Charter the National Park is listed as a voting member. The Park offered that because of the over-lapping jurisdictions, and in the interest of federal efficiency, and to avoid potential conflicts of interests, and the fact that the NPS submits its official comments through NEPA public scoping processes, the NPS would not vote on any SAC matters and could simply abstain from each vote.

The following comments addressed this issue:

- Ed stated that in the charter, the NPS is a voting member and therefore the charter would need to be revised if the NPS wanted to assume a different role. The charter revision process was then outlined along with the rational for voting and abstaining.
 - Council members added that the SAC was not an action body, but was implemented to give advice to the Sanctuary Manager.
- The SAC is exempt from FACA.

The discussion was closed without any motion taken.

V. MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW BRIEFING – ANNE WALTON, CINMS (Presentation and management plan revision materials to be provided)

- The Management Plan Revision Process will be posted on the CINMS web site along with staff presentations to provide information to constituents.
- Summaries, handouts, and general guidance of the current plan are offered by the CINMS.

- SAC members are asked to consult with their constituents to identify potential Sanctuary issues and to report to the Sanctuary office by May 10, 1999.
- Scoping sessions will be held at the end of June in five locations including San Pedro, Oxnard, Ventura, Santa Barbara and Lompoc. There will also be a Washington D.C. scoping session.
- CINMS staff are willing to provide information to constituents and to attend meetings

Please review the National Marine Sanctuaries Act, found in the SAC binders, for guidance on the overall marine sanctuaries program. The involvement of the SAC and the community is to solicit input on issues to be addressed in the new Management Plan. The scoping meetings are designed to solicit public input. There are no specific guidelines for how input is received. Comments may be forwarded to the CINMS throughout the scoping period as well as 30 days after the scoping period.

VI. MARINE RESERVE PROCESS UPDATE, FISH AND GAME COMMISSION MEETING SUMMARY, ESTABLISH MARINE RESERVE WORKING GROUP, ESTABLISH SCIENCE WORKING GROUP:

A) Fish and Game Commission Meeting Summary

The Fish and Game Commission endorsed the DFG to partner with the CINMS on the proposal for a Joint Federal and State Marine Reserve Process. As directed by Fish and Game Commission the DFG will move forward with two processes, the local Channel Islands process and the overall statewide policy development process.

- An overall process timeline is not currently set, however the DFG and the Commission hope to move forward in a timely fashion with science based information and involvement of all stakeholders.
- Patty Wolf shared a letter of support from DeWayne Johnston, Director of the DFG's Marine Region endorsing the DFG's partnership with the CINMS and SAC.

B) Establishing a Marine Reserve Working Group

The discussion on the Marine Reserve Working Group (working group) centered on the number of seats, balance of representation, and interaction with the SAC, science working group and public.

Number of Seats - Several SAC members suggested possible models for number of seats and representation. It was suggested that there be 3 seats for the fishing community, 3 for the conservation community, 3 members at large, NMFS, NPS, DFG, USN, a Chair from the SAC and whoever else from the SAC wanted to participate.

- Patty Wolf agreed to serve as the Chair, but suggested that a co-chair be considered
- Tim Setnicka nominated Gary Davis as a possible Chair
- Craig Fusaro offered to be on the Working Group
- Should there be a government / non-government dichotomy?

Balanced Representation- the following representation on the working group was suggested:

- 4 Conservation
- 4 Fishing
- National Marine Fisheries Service
- National Park Service
- Fish & Game
- 3 at-large: Sea Grant / Economist / Research

Jim Donlon suggested the following representation - commercial fishing, recreational fishing, tourism, boating community, yacht club, NMFS, sea grant, National Park, non-consumptive users, sociologist and scientist and conservationist; Mr. Donlon offered to serve as a conservation representative.

Further comments on representation included:

- While a regional balance is important, a broad grouping of the right expertise should be the primary goal of the working group
- The US Navy requested representation
- The CINMS will provide a non-voting participant to the working group
- The need for a facilitator was debated
- Nominations should come from sectors and people already involved, for example - Deborah McArdle, someone from Channel Islands Marine Resource Restoration Committee and Chris Miller
- Chris Miller was suggested as a possible co-Chair because he has dedicated time to this issue and has served as a liaison with the fishing community, and he has worked with the conservation community and attended the Fish and Game Commission meetings on this issue.

C) Establishing a Marine Reserve Science Working Group

The relationship of the Science Working Group, the Marine Reserve Working Group as well as a workshop on reserve objectives and goals was discussed. In addition, size, representation and tasks were discussed for both the Science Working Group and the objectives and goals workshop. The Science Working Group is to support the Marine Reserve Working Group by addressing the question of marine reserves through a balance of expertise. The Science Working Group will analyze and synthesize available data and present their findings to the Marine

Reserve Working Group. Information will flow from the Science Working Group to the Marine Reserves Working Group to the Sanctuary Advisory Council.

Science Working Group discussion points:

There was a question on when the objectives and goals workshop should be held and whether a Science Working Group could be created before this workshop.

The Science working group should be flexible and expandable if further expertise is required.

Nominations for the Science Working Group:

A SAC Sub-Committee will put together a statement that will solicit nominations. The call for nominations will be made available on the CINMS web-page, flyers and via SAC member outreach. The Sub-Committee will then review all the nominations for the Science Working Group and make recommendations to the SAC at the May 20, 1999 meeting.

The following SAC members volunteered to serve on the sub-committee: Mark Helvey, Bruce Steele, Matt Cahn, Linda Krop, Craig Fusaro, and Fred Piltz.

D) Establishing Reserves Objectives and Goals Workshop

A marine reserve goals and objective workshop is intended to reach out to the general public.

The workshop should be facilitated and attempt to solicit the broader issues of enhancing fisheries and other objectives not included in the Sanctuaries objectives. Michele Jackson was suggested as a possible facilitator.

A Science Working Group should weigh in on goals and objectives early on in the process; this may help guide the goals and objectives workshop.

A question was raised on whether the outcome is a reserve recommendation or a recommendation with several options. It was suggested that the science group and working group create a matrix that suggest a percentage of reserves and text that describes how the percentage meets the agreed upon objectives to forward to the SAC for consideration. Ultimately, the Advisory Council is not giving a decision but management options.

The Center for Marine Conservation (CMC) suggested that strawmen proposals be developed for the process. CMC and Natural Resources Defense Council and the Environmental Defense Fund want to make a positive contribution (please refer to handouts provided by Warner Chabot).

Chris Miller has a letter on possible reserve goals to consider as well.

The social economic group depicted in the diagram will be developed at a later date in conjunction with management plan development.

VI. PRESENTATION by Steve Gaines, Director of Marine Science Institute UCSB on the National Center of Ecological Analysis and Synthesis - Developing a Theory of Marine Reserve working group

In thinking about a marine reserves science group, the CINMS consulted with the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis (NCEAS). NCEAS support a variety of research primarily on ecological issues. NCEAS has a working group looking at Developing a Theory of Marine Reserves that includes a cadre of scientists from around the world including this community. This NCEAS group has 22 members, composed of primarily ecologists, but also geneticists, policy specialists, larval specialists, fisheries specialists, graduate students and post-docs; Five or six members are local scientist. This NCEAS group has stated that they are willing to affiliate themselves with the SAC reserve Science Group to share information. This link with NCEAS could provide the SAC with a breadth of expertise and case studies. Dr. Gaines made the following points:

- The group has not been focussing on any particular area, but on a variety of goals and a conceptual framework for reserves. If the group focuses on the CINMS area and the reserve process then additional local expertise would be necessary.
- The study of marine reserves does not preclude the study of current management techniques.
- NCEAS hopes to produce a series of articles by early summer that has ecological applications and synthesis the existing state of knowledge on reserves. This could possibly lead to a book in a year and a half.
- The SAC process should consider a post doc to dig into the existing data and to process data sets. This would require full time work on data sets, but would greatly help the science working group.
- For more information on the NCEAS Developing a Theory for Marine Reserves group please go to <http://www.nceas.ucsb.edu/> and search under research projects.

VII. BRIEFING ON SEA OTTER MANAGEMENT: CARL BENZ, US Fish and Wildlife Service

Carl Benz, USFWS provided a brief history of the sea otter management project, current migration behavior and population decline. Two documents were produced by the USFWS concerning a biological opinion and a determination on the relocation project. Carl Benz offered to mail out these documents to anyone who is interested.

Discussion ensued on the viability of a marine reserve with the presence of sea otters.

Carl Benz asked SAC members to please direct comments to USFW in writing.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM.